

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action mailed November 19, 2004. A retroactive one-month extension is hereby respectfully requested. Accordingly, a Petition for Retroactive Extension of Time is enclosed herewith. The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge the requisite fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

In the Office Action, the Examiner in paragraph 10 objected to Claims 4, 9, 12, 13 in so far as each was based upon a rejected based claim. The Examiner stated, however, that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended the claims accordingly. The elements recited in Claim 4 have been added to Claim 1, and Claim 4 has been amended to include a further limitation. The elements recited in Claim 13 have been added to Claim 11, and Claim 13 has been amended to a further limitation. Newly added independent Claim 21 recites each element recited in Claim 1 and adds the element recited in Claim 9. Newly added independent Claim 22 recites each element recited in Claim 11 and adds the element recited in Claim 12.

Independent Claim 17 has been amended to overcome the rejection stated at paragraph 3 of the Office Action. As amended, independent Claim 17 is directed to a method of forming an image. Moreover, Claim 17 has been amended to include further limitations not found in the prior art.

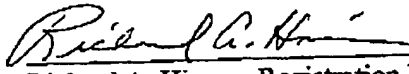
Each of the dependent claims recites additional elements not included in the independent claims, which as stated herein include elements not found in the prior art. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that there is no remaining basis for rejecting these claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit, Claims 1-22 define over the prior art and are patentable.

Applicants believe that all claims are now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned (at 561-671-3616), however, if it is believed that a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance. The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees due with the filing of this document and during prosecution of this application to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

Respectfully submitted,

AKERMAN SENTERFITT

Date: March 21, 2005


Richard A. Hinson, Registration No. 47,652
AKERMAN SENTERFITT
P.O. Box 3188
West Palm Beach, FL 33402-3188
Tel: 561-653-5000

Docket No. 5853-437